

WC 07-145

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554-3822

FILED/ACCEPTED
MAY 24 2007
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

In the Matter of)
)
Section 63.71 Application of)
AT&T Communications of New England, Inc.,) File No.
)
For Authority Pursuant to Section 214 of)
The Communications Act of 1934, As Amended,)
To Discontinue the Provision of Service)

**SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION OF AT&T COMMUNICATIONS OF
NEW ENGLAND, INC.**

AT&T Communications of New England, Inc. ("AT&T Communications of New England"), applies for authority under Section 214(a) of the Communications Act, as amended ("the Act"), 47 U.S.C. § 214, and Section 63.71 of the Federal Communications Commission's ("Commission") rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue the provision of interstate residential local exchange services throughout its service area in Connecticut.

As required by Section 63.71(a) and (b) of the Commission's rules, AT&T Communications of New England is providing the following information:

Name and Address of Carrier (47 C.F.R. §§ 63.71(a)(1), (b)(2)):

AT&T Communications of New England, Inc.
PO Box 430
Bedminster, NJ 07921-0430

Date of Planned Service Discontinuance (47 C.F.R. §§ 63.71(a)(2), (b)(2)):

AT&T Communications of New England will no longer offer local exchange service on or after August 23, 2007 subject to Commission authorization of the discontinuance pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(c).

Points of Geographic Areas of Service Affected (47 C.F.R. §§ 63.71(a)(3), b(2)):

Interstate residential local exchange service will be discontinued throughout the AT&T Communications of New England service areas in Connecticut.

Brief Description of Type of Service Affected (47 C.F.R. §§ 63.71(a)(3), b(2)):

Interstate residential local exchange service is basic telephone exchange service that allows customers to make local calls within a local exchange, which includes local calling areas that cross state boundary lines.

If this Application is approved, the interstate residential local exchange services currently provided by AT&T Communications of New England, will be provided by its incumbent local exchange carrier ("ILEC") affiliate, AT&T Connecticut.

The public convenience and necessity will not be impaired by this service discontinuance because there are many alternative providers of local exchange telephone services, including but not limited to, Cox, Cablevision, and Comcast, as well as the AT&T ILEC affiliate, AT&T Connecticut. Furthermore, none of the affected customers should experience a loss in service as AT&T Communications of New England plans to automatically migrate the affected customers to its affiliate, AT&T Connecticut, unless the customers elect to receive local exchange service from another provider pursuant to the process outlined in section 64.1120(e) of the Commission's rules.

Brief Description of the Dates and Methods of Notice to All Affected Customers (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(b)(3)):

AT&T Communications of New England notified customers by letter sent via U.S. Mail on May 21, 2007. A copy of the letter is attached hereto as Attachment A.

Copies of this Application are being sent, first class U.S. Mail, to the public utilities commission and governor of Connecticut and also to the Special Assistant for Telecommunications to the Secretary of Defense, as required by 63.71(a) of the Commission's rules.

Regulatory Classification of Carrier (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(b)(4)):

AT&T Communications of New England is considered non-dominant with respect to the service to be discontinued.

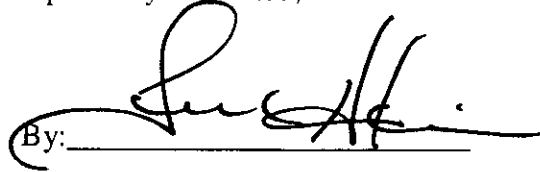
Questions about this application may be addressed to Toni Acton, AT&T Services, Inc., Director – Federal Regulatory, 1120 20th Street, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 457-3039.

Conclusion:

The public convenience and necessity will not be adversely affected by the discontinuance of this service since there are alternative providers of local exchange service and AT&T Communications of New England plans to automatically migrate the customers to AT&T Connecticut unless the customers elect to receive local exchange service from another provider.

AT&T Communications of New England respectfully requests that the Commission approve its Section 63.71 Application to discontinue interstate residential local exchange service in Connecticut.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Terri L. Hoskins
Gary L. Phillips
Paul K. Mancini

AT&T Inc.
1120 20th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

(202) 457-3047 – Tel. No.
(202) 457-3073 – Fax. No.

Its Attorneys

May 24, 2007

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do certify that I have, this 24th day of May 2007, served a copy of the foregoing
Section 63.71 Application by U.S. Mail postage prepaid to the following:

/s/Lacretia Hill
Lacretia Hill

Governor M. Jodi Rell
Executive Office of the Governor
State Capitol
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Connecticut Department of Public Utility
Control
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Secretary of Defense
Attn: Special Asst. for Telecommunications
Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Attachment A



AT&T
P.O. Box 430
Bedminster, NJ 07921-0430

YOUR LOCAL SERVICE WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO AT&T CONNECTICUT UNLESS YOU CHOOSE A NEW LOCAL TELEPHONE SERVICE PROVIDER BEFORE AUGUST 23, 2007.

May 21, 2007

Mr./Mrs./Ms. Customer
1234 Address
Anywhere USA 00000

Dear Customer Name,

We want to update you on some important and positive changes underway at the new AT&T that may require you to take action. As you may know, in November 2005, AT&T Corp. and SBC Communications Inc. joined together to form what is now the new AT&T. Today, local services for residential customers in the State of Connecticut are provided by AT&T Connecticut, one of the AT&T family of companies.

Your current local service provider, *AT&T Communications of New England, Inc.*, will no longer provide residential local telephone service in Connecticut after August 23, 2007. Many customers were transitioned to a different local service provider back in 2003. Our records indicate that you were not transitioned at that time, and that you have continued to receive local service from AT&T Communications of New England, Inc. In addition, our records reflect that you have not received a monthly bill for your AT&T local service for an extended period of time. Nevertheless, you will not be back-billed for the AT&T local service you have been receiving at no charge. **However, your action is required at this time.**

You have three options to consider:

- **Call AT&T Connecticut to select your new services** – You will be pleased to learn about all of the new products & services we have introduced lately. Take this opportunity to contact an AT&T Connecticut customer care representative who stands ready to answer your questions and recommend new packages and bundles designed to meet all of your communications and entertainment needs. Simply call toll free 1-866-263-2208 before August 23, 2007. There are no costs associated with changing your local provider to AT&T Connecticut.
- **You always have the right to select another local telephone service provider** – We sincerely hope you will continue to remain with the AT&T family, but you do have the option of selecting another local telephone service provider. A listing of available local service providers may be found in your AT&T White Pages Directory. You need to make that selection before August 23, 2007 to avoid automatic transfer of your account to AT&T Connecticut. If you select another provider after August 23, 2007, your choice can only be put into effect after the change to AT&T Connecticut and will therefore take additional time after that date. If you select another provider, you may incur additional charges from that provider.
- **If you do not choose a new provider or do not call us, you will be automatically transferred to AT&T Connecticut** – You can decide to take no action, in which case we will transfer you automatically to AT&T Connecticut during a transition period from August 29 through August 31, 2007. You will be better served if you give us a call so that we can ensure you have the products and services that are right for you. If you don't call us, we will switch you to the AT&T Connecticut basic local plan that includes a Flat Primary Residential LineSM and unlimited local calling with a monthly recurring charge that varies depending on your address. **We will cancel any optional calling features and non-published or unlisted telephone number directory listings you currently have. As a result, your name, telephone number, and address will be listed in the telephone directory and available through directory assistance unless you contact AT&T Connecticut immediately following transition of your service to request a non-published or unlisted telephone number.** Following transition, you may also contact AT&T Connecticut at any time to enroll in any optional calling features you might wish to have. Your new AT&T Connecticut local service bill should arrive within 60 days after the transition period. Feel free to call should you have any questions when you receive your first bill at the number provided on the bill. There are no costs associated with this change to AT&T Connecticut.

Important Information:

- **Long Distance Service**
If you select a new local service provider, you should contact your current long distance provider to ensure there is no change to your long distance calling plan. Not doing so may result in a change in the rates applied to your long distance calls.
- **AT&T Communications of New England, Inc. must file a request to discontinue service at the FCC.**
The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service unless it is shown that customers would

May 21, 2007

be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 15 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. Address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the "§63.71 Application of AT&T Communications of New England, Inc." Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance upon you, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

Additional information if you are automatically migrated to, or choose AT&T Connecticut:

- **Frozen or blocked accounts**
If you currently have a freeze or block on your account to prevent changes to your local or long distance service providers, those freezes or blocks will be removed if your service is transferred to AT&T Connecticut. You will need to contact AT&T Connecticut toll free at 1-866-263-2208 if you would like to re-establish a freeze/block for your account after the transfer of your service.
- **Update banking/bill payment information**
If you wish to make payments via your bank, on-line bill pay, or credit card, please update your records to reflect your new AT&T Connecticut account information. This will ensure proper payment. Your new billing account information will be your 10 digit billing telephone number plus a three digit customer code that will appear on your new AT&T Connecticut bill.
- **Questions about new service**
If you have any questions regarding your new service(s), contact AT&T Connecticut toll free at 1-866-263-2208 (Monday – Friday 7:00 am – 9:00 pm ET and Saturday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm ET).

Sincerely,

Customer Care
AT&T Communications of New England, Inc.